

Amendments to the Claims:

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1. (original): In a method of compiling satellite imagery and generating a map therefrom, an improvement comprising:

- watermarking image data acquired by a satellite;
- storing the watermarked image data in a database;
- generating a map from the database; and
- watermarking the map.

2. (previously presented): In a method of generating a digital map from a database containing data from a plurality of aerial sources, an improvement comprising generating a digital map; and then watermarking the map.

3. (previously presented): The method of claim 2 in which the watermarking encodes, or points to, information that is also conveyed with said map in the form of header data.

4. (original): The method of claim 2 in which the watermark permits later identification of the data sources used in generating the map.

5. (original): The method of claim 2 in which the watermark comprises, or serves as a link to, an image identifier.

6. (original): The method of claim 2 in which the watermark comprises, or links to, data identifying at least one of the following: component maps used in forming said digital map, the date of digital map creation, an identifier corresponding to a person who created the digital map, an identifier corresponding to a person to whom the digital map was provided.

7. (canceled)

8. (previously presented): A composite map formed from plural sets of component map data, characterized in that said plural sets of component map data each are encoded with a different watermark, each of said different watermarks encoding, or linking to, meta data associated with its respective component map data.

9-15 (canceled)

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